

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 125818
ORIGIN HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
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APPROVED BY EA/VLC - FZBROWN
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O R 172143Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 125818

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:SHUM, ICRC, VN, CB

SUBJECT: ICRC VISIT TO CAMBODIAN POW'S IN VIETNAM

1. WE HAVE JUST LEARNED FROM ICRC'S NEW YORK OFFICE THAT
ICRC DELEGATE MICHEL VEUTHEY, NORMALLY THEIR OBSERVER TO
UN IN NEW YORK, HAS GONE TO VIETNAM WITH ICRC DELEGATE
ANDRE PASQUIER AT SRV'S INVITATION TO CONDUCT INSPECTION
VISITS TO CAMBODIAN POW'S IN VIETNAM.

2. INVITATION APPARENTLY RESPONDS TO ICRC'S COMMUNICATION
AT START OF CAMBODIA-VIETNAM CONFLICT CALLING ON BOTH SIDES
TO APPLY 1949 GENEVA CONVENTIONS, AND OFFERING ITS TRADI-
TIONAL HUMANITARIAN SERVICES. ICRC REMINDED SRV RED CROSS
DELEGATION THAT VISITED GENEVA IN EARLY APRIL OF THIS MES-
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PAGE 02 STATE 125818

SAGE AND OFFER, LEADING TO THE CURRENT VISIT. ICRC RECOG-
NIZES SRV MAY TRY TO USE IT TO ADVANCE ITS PROPAGANDA
EFFORTS TO DEPICT CAMBODIAN INHUMANITY AND RESPONSIBILITY
FOR THE CONFLICT, BUT PLANS TO CONDUCT POW INSPECTIONS IN
AS NORMAL A MANNER AS POSSIBLE, INCLUDING INTERVIEWS WITH
PRISONERS WITHOUT WITNESSES, ETC.

3. VEUTHEY AND PASQUIER REPORTEDLY ARRIVED HANOI IN LAST FEW DAYS, AND WE DON'T KNOW HOW LONG THEY'LL STAY. THEY ARE EXPECTED TO DEPART VIA BANGKOK, WITH VEUTHEY THEN POSSIBLY

RETURNING DIRECTLY TO HIS NEW YORK OFFICE WITHOUT TRANSITING GENEVA.

4. SUGGEST BANGKOK CHECK WITH ICRC OFFICE THERE TO SEE IF VEUTHEY AND PASQUIER CAN BE TALKED TO DISCREETLY ON THEIR WAY OUT. WE WOULD OBVIOUSLY APPRECIATE FULLEST POSSIBLE REPORT ON THIS VISIT. --

VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 17 may 1978
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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